

C O P Y

17 April 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff

SUBJECT: Implementation of Command  
Relationships Agreement

1. In the review of CIA plans in support of military plans, it has become evident that a further definition of the time of implementation of the Command Relationships Agreement (CRA) is necessary for effective planning by the CIA's Senior War Planners. It is clear that implementation of the CRA will be effected in active theaters of war where American forces are engaged; but, for realistic planning, a definite point in time, prior to the outbreak of hostilities, relative to the national and military planning alert systems is required.
2. Although, for planning purposes, it is desirable to establish a point in time at which the CRA would be implemented, its implementation should not be automatic. Political and other considerations, at the time, might dictate that it would not be in the national interest to have the CRA in effect, particularly if it appeared that war might be averted. For this reason, the decision to implement the CRA should be made by the Chairman, JCS, and the DCI in light of the circumstances obtaining at the time an appropriate alert condition is declared.
3. I therefore propose that:
  - a. It be accepted for planning purposes, that the CRA will be implemented at the Order for Reinforced Alert (ORA) or DEFCON-1.
  - b. At the time that appropriate authority recommends declaration of either ORA or DEFCON-1, it be determined jointly

by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the Director of Central Intelligence whether, in fact, CRA should be implemented.

4. I request your comments on or concurrence in the above proposal.

/s/ Marshall S. Carter

Marshall S. Carter  
Lieutenant General, USA  
Acting Director

Signature Recommended:

/s/ Richard Helms, DD/P (12 Apr 62)

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